FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

3 OCTOBER 1985

Israeli Raid: Further Comment and Reaction

A large percentage of those killed in the Israeli raid on PLO buildings near Tunis belonged to Force 17, Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres stated in a Jerusalem television interview, and he said there is "absolutely no doubt" that members of Force 17 carried out the Larnaca operation under orders from its commander and with the knowledge of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. A number of captured members of Force 17, including its deputy commander, have confirmed that Force 17 was responsible for the Larnaca attack, he disclosed. Peres denied that the United States was informed of the Israeli raid beforehand, asserting that "not a single foreigner knew in advance," and he maintained that the Americans were "totally unaware" that Israel had planes in the air. Asked why Israel raided PLO offices in Tunisia rather than Jordan, the Israeli leader said that while Tunisia provides the PLO with independent, "extraterritorial" territory, Jordan actively fights terrorism, preventing terrorists from crossing the Jordan River and from establishing terrorist bases inside Jordan. Welcoming the gradual "movement" in Jordan's position toward the peace process, Peres expressed hope that this will result in negotiations with Jordan. Industry and Commerce Minister Ari'el Sharon viewed the Israeli raid as a clear warning that King Husayn must work rapidly to remove the PLO headquarters from Jordan, Jerusalem radio reported. Israel will be unable to tolerate these headquarters close to its border, Sharon stated, and it will be unable to negotiate with Husayn before he removes them from Jordan. Meanwhile, Peres and other ministers were "pleasantly surprised" by the U.S. reaction to the Israeli raid, according to Jerusalem television.

In Tunisia, President Habib Bourguiba summoned the U.S. ambassador in Tunis to express "deep regret and great astonishment" at the U.S. stance on the raid, Tunis radio noted, adding that Bourguiba also expressed concern about the role the United States "might have played in the operation." An Iranian Foreign Ministry statement broadcast by Tehran radio strongly condemned the raid and the "total" U.S. support for it, which "once again proves the U.S. deep hostility to the Muslims and Arabs." In New York, the foreign ministers of Iran, Syria, and Libya discussed the "deceitful role" played by the United States in assisting Israel, according to the radio, and they also castigated King Husayn for declaring his readiness to negotiate with Israel. The Kuwaiti foreign minister sharply criticized U.S. political support for the raid in a speech to the UN Security Council broadcast by Kuwait radio. In the Gulf, a GCC General Secretariat statement cited by QNA likewise denounced the raid but did not mention the United States. In his capacity as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi sent messages to Tunisian Prime Minister Mzali and the PLO's 'Arafat condemning the raid as an "inexcusable" attack on Tunisia's sovereignty.

Israel and the USSR

During his Jerusalem television interview on the Israeli air raid, Prime Minister Peres again stressed that Israel will not go into an international conference with the Soviet Union unless the latter renews diplomatic relations with Israel, and he stated that Israel is prepared to begin an "open and honorable" dialogue with the USSR. Peres condemned the murder of a Soviet diplomat in Beirut, Jerusalem radio noted.

Lebanon

The Soviet Union in a statement carried by TASS called the murder of a Soviet Embassy official in Beirut an "atrocity which cannot be pardoned" and demanded the "immediate and unconditional" release of the remaining three Soviet hostages. The statement said those responsible for the killing made demands concerning armed actions of Lebanese groups which are not related to the Soviet Union "at all."

An anonymous caller told a news agency that the other Soviet Embassy officials will be released if the attacks on Tripoli stop, Beirut radio disclosed, but he added that the hostages will be executed if the fighting continues. Another unidentified person told news agencies that the Soviet Embassy will be destroyed if its occupants do not leave Beirut, the radio noted. At an emergency session chaired by President Amin al-Jumayyil, security officials agreed to take "urgent" measures to protect Soviet facilities in Beirut and their employees, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Meanwhile, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Islamic Unification Movement (IUM) leader Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban to discuss the situation in Tripoli, Damascus radio noted. Beirut radio reported that clashes were continuing in Tripoli 3 October while consultations were still being held to end the fighting. The pro-Syrian parties' conditions for a cease-fire include the collection of weapons and the deployment of the Syrian Army in Tripoli, the Voice of Lebanon reported. However, an IUM spokesman cited by Beirut radio said his movement will never hand over its weapons and wants internal security forces to have sole responsibility for security in the city.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes raided Khark Island 3 October while Iraqi naval units struck Iranian oil fields in Nowruz, an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA announced. Earlier, Iraqi forces "crushed" an Iranian offensive in the northern sector after a fierce 2-hour battle, according to an Iraqi military communique cited by Voice of the Masses radio. The communique added that Iraqi planes hit a "large" maritime target near the Iranian coast. Meanwhile, an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA denied Iran's claim that it downed two Iraqi helicopters 30 September and 2 October in the north.

The Kuwaiti foreign minister said he had a "good" meeting with his Iranian counterpart at UN Headquarters in New York, Kuwait radio reported.

Sudan

A Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) High Command statement broadcast by the SPLA's clandestine radio denied that there was a coup attempt in Khartoum 25-26 September, asserting that what happened was a mutiny by some Army units that had been ordered to the south to fight the SPLA at a time when the latter was asking for dialogue.

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BAKHTAR Reports Peasant Land Grants, Harvest

LD021344 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Kabul, October 1, Bakhtar — Over 1,746 landless peasants in Faryab Province, north of Afghanistan, received the ownership documents of land during the last six months, said an assistant secretary of the provincial party committee at a session held at Maymanah, capital of Faryab.

Twelve peasants in Faryab Province, north of Afghanistan, received the ownership documents of land during the last six months, said an assistant secretary of the provincial party committee at a session held at Maymanah, capital of Faryab.

Twelve peasants councils were also established there in the same period in which over 300 peasants have membership.

As also, there are 26 agricultural services cooperatives which has over 4,000 members. These cooperatives are much helpful in providing foodstuffs for the consumers at stable prices.

A BAKHTAR correspondent from Konduz Province, north of the country, reports that the harvests of the current Afghan year were more than that of the last year. The wheat harvest also was higher by 117 tons as compared with the last year. Over seventy landless peasant families received over 70 hectares of land in the past six months in that province. Similarly 1,500 tons chemical fertilizers and a considerable amount of insecticides and pesticides were distributed to the peasants in the same period.

According to another report over 2,100 ownership documents of land were distributed to the landless peasants of Nangarhar Province, east of the country, in the past six months.

Reportage on Government Successes Against Rebels

20 Surrender in Faryab

LD012228 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 1 Oct 85

[Text] Darreh-ye -- A 20-man group, members of the criminal bands of Jami'et, including their ringleader, Khal Mohammad, came to the side of the security forces in Faryab Province, bringing with them six Kalashnikovs, four 11-shot American rifles, two (?Marco's) with 6,000 rounds of various ammunition and ten handgrenades. They availed themselves of the Revolutionary Council's general amnesty decree, message and, resolution of the historic Grand Assembly of the DRA. They gave an assurance that they would strive to remedy their past deeds and defend to the end the gains of the glorious April Revolution.

Konduz, Vardak Operations

LD022148 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1610 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] A BAKHTAR correspondent reported that as a result of the victorious operations which were recently carried out in the Konduz Province area, a number of the counterrevolutionary elements from the Harakat band were crushed and a number were captured.

The security forces seized from these criminals: 81 antitank and antipersonnel mines, 73 rounds of DShK ammunition, 57 mortar shells, 10 (?guerrilla) mortar mine shells [as heard], 14 rounds of rocket launcher ammunition, 3 DShK'S, uniforms made in China, and a quantity of various weapons with 700 rounds of their ammunition. Moreover, a quantity of propaganda documents and leaflets on their links with mercenary and sell-out bands abroad were also seized as a result of these operations.

As a result of the successful operations which were carried out in the surroundings of Vardak Province, 13 counterrevolutionary elements were arrested; a ZK-1, 1 recoilless artillery, 2 rocket launchers, 2 DShK'S, 8 Chinese Kalashnikovs, 1 motorvehicle, 2 American rifles, 3 11-shot rifles, 4 pistols, 2 5-shot rifles, 40 boxes of ZK-1 ammunition, 15 DShK's and ammunition, 5 boxes of 11-shot rifle ammunition, 29 rocket launcher shells, 42 antitank mines, 43 mortar mines, 7 handgrenades, 50 rounds of DShK ammunition, 1 mine detonation unit, 2 anti-personnel mines, a large quantity of medicine, and a quantity of the rebel bands' cards with 2,000 anti-government propaganda leaflets establishing their links with mercenary and sell-out bands abroad; were seized from these criminals by the security forces.

Kabul Reports U.S. Journalist's Death in Qandahar

LD030850 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] The Western mass media reported that an American journalist, Charles Thornton, was killed in Qandahar province while travelling with one of the counterrevolutionary bands, and three of his colleagues were injured. They were the victims of clashes between various counterrevolutionary bands who, with the assistance of U.S. imperialism, prolong their shameful life and with weapons, ammunition, and American money perpetrate subversive deeds.

The United States and its NATO allies have unleashed an undeclared imperialist war against our country since the victory of the April Revolution for the purpose of obstructing the path of consolidation of national sovereignty in Afghanistan. Undeniable facts prove that intervention in the internal affairs of the DRA has been transformed into an official policy of the Reagan administration and increasingly takes broader dimensions.

Gandhi Sends Message to Junejo on Relations

BK030343 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has expressed India's desire to further improve relations with Pakistan. This was conveyed in a good-will message to the Pakistan prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, handed over by the Indian ambassador to Pakistan, Mr S.K. Singh. He paid his first courtesy call on Mr Junejo in Islamabad yesterday evening. Mr Junejo, reciprocating the message, expressed Pakistan's desire to establish good-neighborly relations with India.

Gandhi Sends Messages Condeming Israeli Attack

Message to 'Arafat

BK021335 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said that India strongly condemns the Israeli attack on the PLO headquarters in Tunis. In a message to the PLO chairman, Mr Yasir 'Arafat, he said that he was anxious about Mr 'Arafat's personal welfare and was relieved to hear that he was unhurt in the incident. Mr Gandhi also sent his greetings and good wishes for the success of the struggle of the Palestinian people.

Message to Mzali

BK021609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] In a message to the prime minister of Tunisia, Mr Mzali, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said India is shocked at the inexcusable air attack on the sovereign territory of Tunisia. He said we have condemned it in unequivocal terms. Tunisia can count on India's full support for its cause in the Security Council and other international fora, Mr Gandhi added.

The external affairs minister, Mr Bali Ram Bhagat, has denounced Israel's aggressive and expansionist policy. Speaking at a meeting of heads of delegations of the Nonaligned Movement at the United Nations today, Mr Bhagat described Israeli action as a threat to peace and security. He pledged the movement's continued support for the brave, homeless and harassed Palestinian people.

Opposition Leader Calls Punjab Accord 'Illegal'

HK021316 Hong Kong AFP in English 1242 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 2 (AFP) — A top opposition leader in Hindu-dominated Haryana state today announced a mass protest to be held against the accord between the moderate Sikhs in Punjab and the Indian Government, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said.

Devi Lal, chairman of the Haryana chapter of the Lok Dal Party, headed by Former Prime Minister Charan Singh, told a press conference in Chandigarh that "Haryana is a big loser both on the issue of territory and sharing of the river waters with Punjab."

He described the accord as "illegal."

Chandigarh presently is shared by Punjab and Haryana as their capital.

The accord, aimed at ending the movement spearheaded by the moderate Sikhs' party, the Akali Dal, for greater political autonomy for the predominantly Sikh Punjab, gives Chandigarh exclusively to Punjab and seeks to merge into Haryana some Hindi-speaking areas now in Punjab.

Mr. Lal said a mass protest would be held soon across Haryana.

Mr. Lal and another party colleague, Mangal Sein, resigned from the Haryana Assembly in protest against the accord. Both contested by-elections held recently on the seats they vacated, and made the accord a poll issue. Mr. Lal won but Mr. Sein lost.

Haryana is ruled by the Congress (I) Party of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

PTI also reported from Chandigarh that Khalsa Singh, wife of Beant Singh, slain alleged assasin of Indira Gandhi, said she had lost her bid for a seat in the Punjab assembly because of a "conspiracy" and would soon challenge it in court.

Mrs. Gandhi was shot dead last October 31 in New Delhi allegedly by Sikh bodyguards, including Mr. Singh who was killed on the spot. His wife ran as an independent candidate from two constituencies in the polls held September 25.

Firm Gets Computer Order From Soviet Union

HK020936 Hong Kong AFP in English 0645 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 2 (AFP) — India has made a breakthrough into the Soviet computer market by obtaining a trial order worth 10 million rupees (80,000 dollars) for the export of computer peripherals, it was reported here today.

The order for floppy discs, winchester drives, and line dot matrix printers was acquired by Computronics India, a company which had pioneered the export of software since 1972, a company spokesman said.

On the successful completion of the trial order the company hoped to receive from the Soviets from 1986 onwards export orders for peripherals valued at 200 million rupees (16.5 million dollars), the spokesman added.

Meanwhile, the state-owned Electronics Trade and Technology development Corporation Chairman P.S. Deodhar announced plans to open distribution centres in the United States for the sale of Indian electronic goods.

The corporation, set up two years ago, had increased its turnover during the last eight months from 310 million rupees (26 million

dollars) to 759 million rupees (63 million dollars), Mr Deodhar said.

Car Damaged in Bomb Explosion in Amritsar

BK021557 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] In Amritsar, a rear portion of a car was damaged in a bomb explosion near a hospital this evening. A police spokesman said in Chandigarh this evening that no one was injured in the incident. Ballistic experts and police have rushed to the spot.

Several Bombs Found

BK030318 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] In Punjab, some more bombs were recovered in Gurdaspur District yesterday. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that a number of such bombs which were in the shape of transistors, pens, watches, jewelry boxes, and plastic tiffin boxes have been recovered from various parts of the district during the last 10 days. The spokesman cautioned the people against touching any unclaimed article lying anywhere and advised them not to leave their vehicles, bags, or any other pieces of luggage unattended to.

Delhi Paper Comments on Visit by King of Nepal

BK020135 Delhi THE INDIAN EXPRESS in English 21 Sep 85 p 6

[Editorial: "A New Partnership"]

[Text] The visit of the king and queen of Nepal to Delhi has been uneventful but important. King Birendra is no stranger to India or even to Mr Rajiv Gandhi. But this is their first meeting since Mr Gandhi assumed office as Prime Minister. The discussions they had on Thursday are said to have been most cordial, though nothing has been verified as yet of their content. As close neighbours, close rapport between the heads of Government and State of Nepal and India is a matter of some consequence, especially as the kingdom is landlocked and geography, the demographic disposition of the population, and culture dictate a strong southern connection. The closeness of the relationship is best exemplified by the fact of an open border and the free movement of people both ways. Unfortunately, relations between the two sides have not always been as friendly or cooperative as one would wish and minor irritants have loomed large. All the more reason therefore for a frank and friendly exchange between the king and Mr Gandhi in the expectation that personal understanding can strengthen national understanding. The bomb blasts in Nepal last June caused some anxiety there and India was quick to send a message of sympathy and support to Katmandu. The monarchy is a unifying and stabilising factor in Nepal and India's reiteration of this would be a matter of reassurance. Terrorist violence is not the best means of ordered and democratic change.

It was in response to Indian susceptibilities that Nepal recently decided against awarding to China the contract for constructing a segment of the East-West Highway traversing the kingdom along its southern border, and has instead entrusted the task to India. The king personally has been deeply interested in international acceptance of his kingdom as a zone of peace. China, among others has acquiesced in this proposition; India continues to hesitate and seek clarifications. The question may have figured once more in the talks the king had with Mr Gandhi and it would seem an unexceptionable proposition that does not affect Indian interests as the Nepalese have gone on record that declaration of the kingdom as a zone of peace will be without prejudice to the terms of the Indo-Nepal Treaty or other existing treaties. If the concept seems fuzzy, it would be for India, among others, to give it content. The emotional satisfaction such a declaration by India gives Nepal could strengthen the basis for mutual co-operation. Soil conservation, afforestation and water resource development offer immense opportunities for joint endeavour. On the other hand, discussions on these subjects have dragged for years and have been marked by fears and doubts exaggerated by the big country-little country syndrome. There is much scope for trade, with Nepal selling power to India, and for the development of transit arrangements. SAARC [South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation] offers yet another framework for cooperation and, hopefully, this too will flourish. The clear and present mutuality of interests between Nepal and India warrants their forging a new partnership which will yield rich dividends.

Ziaul Haq Sends Messages Condemning Israeli Attack

BK021105 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] The government and the people of Pakistan have strongly condemned the dastardly Israeli attack on the PLO headquarters in Tunis which has resulted in the loss of innocent lives. The attack, they say, is in violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Tunisia. Pakistan, on its part, reaffirms its unwavering support for the just and indomitable cause of the Palestinians and the Arabs. It urges the international community and all peace-loving states to denounce this aggression.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has sent messages of sympathy and support to President Bourguiba of Tunisia and the PLO chairman, Mr Yasir 'Arafat, in this connection.

Junejo Receives Gandhi Message From Indian Envoy

BK030341 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] India's ambassador to Pakistan, Mr S.K. Singh, called on Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Islamabad yesterday evening. He delivered a message of felicitations and good wishes from Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to the prime minister and said that the Indian prime minister sincerely wishes success to the Pakistani prime minister in fulfilling the historic responsibility he faces. The Indian ambassador apprised Mohammad Khan Junejo of the Indian prime minister's desire to further improve Pakistan-India relations on a bilateral basis and on a regional basis through the South Asian Regional Cooperation.

The prime minister reaffirmed that Pakistan sincerely desires to establish tension-free, mutually cooperative, and good-neighborly relations with India. He referred to the useful visits of several delegations between the two countries at the political as well as official levels and said that they have paved the way for the future development of relations.

The Indian ambassador also called on State Minister for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani in Islamabad yesterday. The state minister expressed hope that the Indian envoy's tenure in Pakistan will turn out to be very cordial and the two countries will come closer to each other during this period.

Foreign Minister on Ties With Afghanistan, India

BK021720 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has declared that foreign pressure will not influence Pakistan's principled stand on Afghanistan and its determination to seek a just solution of this problem. Addressing the UN General Assembly today, he stressed the need to solve the basic issue of the withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan. He expressed the hope that full attention will be given to this issue at the forthcoming Geneva talks in December.

The foreign minister's address covered many topics, including relations with India, reduction of nuclear weapons, the Middle East, South Africa, and international economic issues. He said Pakistan is working with strong determination and intention to establish good-neighborly relations with India. He said Pakistan's proposal to India for nonaggression and non-use of force will help remove mistrust and strengthen mutual confidence. In the same spirit, he added, we want a just and honorable solution of the Jammu and Kashmir issue.

About nuclear weapons, the foreign minister said Pakistan was with other non-nuclear-weapon states for a total ban on nuclear weapons. He said it is Pakistan's commitment neither to make nuclear weapons, nor to station them in their territory.

Referring to the progress toward bilateral cooperation in the region, the foreign minister said Pakistan is looking forward to the summit meeting of the member-nations of the South Asia Regional Cooperation scheduled to be held in Dhaka in December.

KYODO: Prime Minister Junejo Postpones PRC Visit

OW031001 Tokyo KYODO in English 0943 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Islamabad, oct. 3 KYODO — Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo's visit to China, his first official visit abroad scheduled for Saturday, has been postponed, official sources said Thursday.

The postponement was necessitated by the unanticipated delay in the passage of a bill in the National Assembly that will legalize eight years of military rule in Pakistan and is considered essential for its promised withdrawal before the end of the year.

Thirty members of the assembly supporting Prime Minister Junejo revolted against certain provisions of the bill Wednesday, threatening its passage which requires a two-third majority of the 238-member assembly.

The whole opposition comprising 34 members had walked out the assembly Wednesday in protest against government efforts to bulldoze the bill and have not returned to the house.

Prime Minister Junejo has started talks with opposition and dissenting members of his group and apparently wants the bill to be passed before President General Ziaul Haq's scheduled visit to the United States from October 14.

House Suspends Rule To Take Up Amendment Bill

BK020422 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Excerpt] The National Assembly last night approved suspension of procedural Rule 91 in connection with the bill for further amendments to the constitution. The House was debating another motion tabled by Federal Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Iqbal Ahmad Khan when it was adjourned until 0930 this morning. The motion seeks to suspend the Sub-

regulation 2 of procedural Rule 92. Deputy Speaker Sardar Wazir Ahmad, who was presiding, rejected a point of (?objection) raised by Haji Saifullah Khan. He said that under the procedural regulations, motions cannot be moved until the requirements of relevant rules are met. Federal Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Iqbal Ahmad Khan, Education Minister Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Watto, and Industry Minister Zafar Ali Shah as well as Abdullah Wazeh and Mir Nawaz Khan Marwat opposed the move. Speaking on his motion, the federal law and parliamentary affairs minister said that the house debate during last 2 days clearly exposed who is placing obstacles to the lifting of martial law, the establishment of a democratic system, and the solution of the people's problems. Earlier, 23 members took part in the debate on suspension of procedural Rule 91 — 10 members spoke during the morning session and 13 during the afternoon.

Assembly Considers Bill

BK021537 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Excerpt] The National Assembly this evening decided to immediately consider constitution 8th amendment bill on the motion of the minister of law and justice and parliamentary affairs, Mr Iqbal Ahmed Khan.

Initiating debate on the bill, the minister of law and justice said the new bill replaces the bill introduced on the 8th of last month. He said this has been done to incorporate people's viewpoints in the new bill because the old bill's scope was limited. He added that the prime minister constituted a 7-member committee to reach a consensus for this purpose. The government parliamentary group reached the concensus, but the independent parliamentary group could not reach concensus on one or two points. He said it is regrettable that a few members of the House have decided to stage a walkout. However, he expressed the hope that they would rturn to the House so as to move ahead with the task with the government parliamentary group.

Tracing in details the country's constitutional and martial law history, he said that unfortunately politicians did not act in the spirit of understanding and failed to meet the people's expectation.

The House has now adjourned till tomorrow morning.

BANGLADESH

Foreign Office Spokesman Condemns Israeli Attack

BK021702 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Bangladesh has strongly condemned the Israeli bombing of Tunis and demanded international actions to prevent recurrence of such international terrorism by the Zionists. A Foreign Office spokesman in Dhaka today described the attack as a violation of the sovereignty of Tunisia. He said the government and people of Bangladesh have been shocked to hear of the barbaric Israeli air raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunis. As a result, a large number of innocent men and women and children have been killed.

SRI LANKA

Troops Raid Tamil Bases, Kill 18 2 Oct

BK031108 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Eighteen Tamil separatist guerrillas were killed in a battle yesterday when security forces swooped on their hideouts in the Northern Province. A Defense Ministry spokesman said that the security forces recovered a cache of ammunition, including 87 mortar shells, 5 mortars, 250 grenades, 500 detonators, and 500 kilograms of explosives from the guerrilla camp in Vavuniya District. The security forces suffered no casualty.

According to the Ministry of National Security, troops detained nearly 400 suspected guerrillas in combing out operations in northern and eastern areas during the past 6 days; 94 were later freed after questioning. Government sources described the camp at Visuamadu between Kilinochchi and Puthukkudiyiuppu as a large one.

AFP: Government Shelves Ceasefire Panel

HK030726 Hong Kong AFP in English 0622 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Colombo, Oct 3 (AFP) — Sri Lankan security forces have smashed three Tamil separatist bases in the north, killing 20 militants, high-ranking security sources said today.

News of the raids came amid reports that the government has suspended the appointment, at least temporarily, of a local panel to monitor a ceasefire on the island between the militants and security forces.

Lieutenant General Cyril Ranatunge, chief of Joint Operations Command (JOC), the main anti-guerrilla headquarters, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the security forces hit three Tamil separatist camps in the northern Visuamadu area yesterday.

He described the operation as a "major breakthrough," following the capture of another separatist base at Nilaweli, north of the eastern port city of Trincomalee, over two weeks ago.

Twenty militants were killed in yesterday's operation, while security forces sustained no casualties although they were fired on, he said.

Five mortars, 255 grenades, 104 mortar bombs, about 1300 rounds of ammunition of different calibre, 525 detonators, uniforms, two electronic radio controls, 500 pounds of gelignite, vehicles, foodstuffs and medical supplies had been recovered, he said.

Gen. Ranatunge said that the troops had been combing the area for the separatists who attacked the northern Kilinochchi police station 10 days ago, wounding nine soldiers and policemen.

A total of 34 Tamil militants, a section of whom are waging a violent campaign for a separate state in the north and east, have died in clashes since September 23, according to official figures.

Meanwhile, reliable sources told AFP that the government has suspended, at least temporarily, the appointment of a local panel to monitor the second ceasefire between the security forces and the major militant separatist groups.

Colombo unilaterally announced a second ceasefire and named a three-member multi-racial panel to monitor it after the first ceasefire agreement expired in mid-September.

The government last weekend had been expected to announce the panel's terms of reference and its mandate.

But a member of the panel told AFP he had not received a letter of appointment and he had now been informed that the idea was being shelved.

AFP: Police Detain Over 600

HK020814 Hong Kong AFP in English 0713 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Colombo, Oct 2 (AFP) -- Police have detained more than 600 Tamils from eastern and north-central Sri Lanka for screening in connection with militant separatist activity, a newspaper said today.

More than 500 youths from the eastern province, where Tamil separatists have attacked two police stations in the past two weeks, were taken into custody in a two-day round up, and another 126 people were detained in Polonnaruwa District adjacent to the Eastern Province, the *SUN* newspaper said.

High ranking security sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that only slightly more than 150 Tamil youths were being questioned in connection with possible "terrorist activities."

One source said 96 had been detained in Batticaloa, the Eastern capital, and in Polonnaruwa, while about 55 others had been held in Trincomalee in the northeast. Security forces conducted a successful operation against a militant Tamil separatist base in Trincomalee last month, killing more than 30 militants.

Police commandos and the National Intelligence Bureau were

involved in the operation, the soucres said.

A section of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamils have been campaigning for a separate state in the north and east. Indian-sponsored talks between major Tamil groups and the government to settle the issue failed in their second round in mid-August when the Tamils walked out.

Saumiamoorthy Thondaman, president of the Ceylon Workers Congress (CWC), largely representing plantation workers of Indian origin, may leave for Madras, southern India, tomorrow for discussions with leaders in Tamil Nadu State and Sri Lankan separatist leaders living there.

Mr. Thondaman, who is also and rural industries minister [as received], told AFP today that a decision on the matter would be taken today.

He said that Indian Foreign Secretary Romesh Bhandari had sugguested when he was here last month for talks with Sri Lankan leaders that it might be useful if Mr. Thondaman met with Tamil Nadu politicians and the six Tamil separatist groups resident there.

India is trying to get the major militant groups to accept a second ceasefire unilaterally announced by Colombo on September 16 and restart the negotiations.

Diplomatic sources said that four militant groups were expected to go to New Delhi for talks on a working paper prepared by India and Sri Lanka in a bid to bring the Tamils back to the talks.

Reportage, Commentary on Israeli Attack

Foreign Ministry Statement

LD022128 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Statement issued by Foreign Ministry of Islamic Republic of Iran — date not given]

[Text] In his exalted name. The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly condemns the aggressive action of the regime occupying Jerusalem in violating Tunisian airspace and bombing PLO headquarters. Despite a series of repeated aggressions, the Zionist regime obviously does not understand any other language but that of revolutionary wrath relying on faith. The unstinting support of the White House for the crimes and aggression of the usurping Israel, including U.S. support for the Israeli violation of Tunisian airspace and the bombing of PLO headquarters, once again proves the deep hostility of the United States toward Muslims and Arabs and the need for the Islamic countries to confront the United States and the Zionist regime.

There is evidence that the planes of the Zionist regime used U.S. facilities in the Mediterranean in their aggression over Tunisia. Once again, the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly condemns the Zionist regime, U.S. support for it, and the efforts of the rulers of Egypt and Jordan and other reactionary rulers to create suitable grounds to compromise with the usurping Israel; and considers it as treachery against the aspirations of the people of Palestine and the Muslims of the world.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, once again, while inviting the people of Palestine to adopt a decisive and hostile policy and to reject all compromising plans, calls upon all Islamic and Arab countries to carry out their Islamic mission and, by using all their resources, rise in support of Palestinian aspirations to answer these aggressive deeds of the Zionist regime.

Majlis Speaker Condemns Attack

LD031142 Tehran IRNA in English 1120 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 3, IRNA — Speaking in the open session of Majlis (parliament) here Thursday the Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani referring to the recent battles in the Lebanese city of Tripoli said that such incidents were tragic.

He urged all those parties who could play an effective role in putting an end to clashes the Syrian Government in particular, to exert utmost efforts to end the bloodshed in Tripoli.

On Tuesday attack of the Zionist warplanes on the Palestinian headquarters in Tunis, Rafsanjani said that the raid was carried out at a time when Egyptian and Jordanian rulers were in the U.S. for talks with the U.S. officials on Camp David accord. The savage attack and its approval by the U.S. President Ronald Reagan proves that the U.S. Administration is not interested in the establishment of peace in the Middle East, he added.

However, he continued, the reactionary and compromising leaders in Arab world are not aware of the real intention of the U.S. Government and they think in vain that the U.S. would take measures towards materialisation of the rights of the Palestinians. Rather, actions of the U.S. Government resulted in nothing but humiliation for Muslims, Arabs and Palestinians, he stressed.

Rafsanjani expressed the hope that the Zionist attack will work as a warning for the compromising and opportunist Muslim and Arab leaders in the region and will make them to return to their people and take serious steps to regain the rights of the Palestinian people.

Libyan, Syrian Iranian Ministers Confer

LD021719 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] During a joint session last night, the foreign ministers of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Libya and Syria reviewed the situation in the region. The meeting, which was held at the residence of the Iranian delegation in New York, analyzed Israel's impudent attack on a distant country, which took place with the full backing of the United States, and reviewed various means to oppose it. It was agreed that the three countries should actively participate in the UN Assembly for the purposes of political confrontation.

The foreign ministers of Iran, Syria and Libya also discussed the deceitful role played by the United States in giving assistance to Israel despite its seemingly peace-seeking moves and the compromise plan of King Husayn, which was proposed with the objective of bringing Jordan into Camp David and bringing about the surrender of Palestinians to Israel. They emphasized: By declaring his readiness to negotiate with Zionists at the United Nations, King Husayn has exposed his own hypocritical and compromising face more than ever before in trying to legitimize the Zionist regime.

The meeting condemned the compromising policy in the region, which prepares the grounds for such aggression.

The three foreign ministers discussed the intensification of clashes in Tripoli. Mr Velayati, expressing concern over the intensification of these clashes, announced the readiness of the Islamic Republic of Iran to offer any assistance to finding a solution to end these clashes and halt the bloodshed.

Najat-e Iran on Envoys' Accusations

GF030421 (Clandestine) Radio Najat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] The affair of the Soviet diplomats in Beirut has been dragged into the corridors of the United Nations. According to reports received from New York, there were verbal clashes yesterday among the envoys of Iran, Syria and the Soviet Union at the UN concerning the four Soviet diplomats taken hostage in Beirut. The Soviet envoy clearly said that the Khomeyni regime's financial and materiel assistance to Islamic Jihad and other

terrorist organizations in Lebanon encouraged these people to carry out such inhumane activities.

A few hours after the Soviet envoy in the UN leveled this accusation against the Islamic regime, the terrorists supporting Khomeyni executed one of the four Soviet hostages and dumped his body in Muslim West Beirut. He was the Soviet Embassy's doctor in Beirut. The second hostage, the cultural attache of the Soviet embassy was executed today at noon by the terrorists supporting Khomeyni in Beirut.

Editorial Urges Retaliation

GF021646 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 2 Oct 85

[From the Press Review]

[Excerpt] The newspaper *KEYHAN AL-'ARABI* published an editorial entitled "When Will the Arab League Decisively Retaliate for the Attack on Tunis?" The editorial says: Apart from the declared and secret motives by the Zionist Air Force for the raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunis, and the nervous reactions issued and yet to be issued by the Arab broadcasting stations in the coming days -- which overall will not kill a single cow grazing in the pasture of the Zionist colonies in the occupied Palestine, apart from killing its owner -- we have a definite question for the Arab League in Tunis, the keeper of the Arab joint defense pact. The question is: What will be the answer to this Zionist challenge which has reached the heart of Arab existence?

International military sources say that the arsenals of some Arab countries are overstocked and their stocks are greater than those of the Zionist enemy. Considering these arsenals as one, they definitely represent an international striking power, not only a regional one. If these weapons are not used against the Zionist enemy in these conditions, then when will they be used? The Islamic Republic of Iran is ready to coordinate and cooperate with any Arab party to take disciplinary and deterrent steps against the Zionists. We are waiting for anyone who will join hands with our alert courageous forces to teach the Zionists an unforgettable lesson.

Tripartite Talks on Tripoli Proposed

LD022019 Tehran IRNA in English 1840 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Damascus, Oct. 2, IRNA — A Lebanese delegation is to meet with Syrian officials here Wednesday, in the wake of Iran's efforts for ending the fighting between militias of the "Tawhid" and leftists in the port city of Tripoli.

Iran's Foreign Ministry deputy for political affairs, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam who arrived here 23 September, earlier discussed the issue in a meeting with Syria's President Hafiz al-Asad, Vice President 'Abd al-Khalim Khaddam, and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. President al-Asad said in the meeting that he would make an effort to end clashes in Tripoli.

Tehran Comments on U.S.-Jordanian Arms Deal

GF030458 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 2 Oct 85

[From "The Political Follow-Up" program]

[Excerpt] U.S. President Reagan announced his backing for the Jordanian regime through his promise to King Husayn pertaining to forging an arms deal with Jordan worth $2 billion. The U.S. President paved the way for this deal in a speech delivered before the U.S. Congress in which he defended his views on arranging this huge arms deal with Jordan. He said: The friends of Israel in the U.S. Congress must not oppose the arms deal due to be signed with Jordan, because the United States has to support all who seek to attain peace with Israel, such as the Jordanian king. This implies that when the Reagan administration announced its determination to conclude this deal with Jordan, it was not keen to preserve the security of Jordan or to strengthen its defenses. For the sake of this arms deal, the Jordanian king has agreed to abandon his dignity and to publicly fall into the pit of capitulation. This was asserted by the U.S. President when he commented on his meeting with King Husayn by saying that Jordan is courageously moving forward in the quest for peace with Israel.

It is noteworthy that the United States wants to give the Zionists the upper hand before the start of any dialogue with the Arab bargainer. This could come about through the U.S. President's insistence on excluding the Soviet Union from participating in any negotiations on the Palestinian issue. Moreover, the United States refuses to allow the participation of the Palestinian organization in any dialogue unless the latter recognizes Israel and recognizes its right to live in security and in peace.

Such conditions dictated upon the Palestinians are merely tangible evidence presented by the United States to the Zionists to prove the American's good intentions toward their ally, Israel. Moreover, all U.S. efforts exerted in this direction will enable the Americans to assert their importance and confirm U.S. capability for solving the most intricate global problems which have haunted the world for over 37 years. This will undoubtedly give the United States great leverage on an international scale enabling it to appear as the party most capable of solving intricate problems without competitors.

However, the strong blows which the Reagan administration received at the hands of the Islamic people in Iran and Lebanon will have a diminishing effect and thus provide the United States greater opportunity to restore its prestige through plots and schemes against Islam, the Muslims, and the Islamic revolution.

Tehran: Officials Claim Oil Exports Immune To Attack

LD022218 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1055 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Unattributed political commentary]

[Text] Recently, with the increase in futile attempts by the Iraqi regime to create tension in the Persian Gulf, the foreign media as usual have engaged in an extensive propaganda war

attempting to prove Baghdad's boastful claims. The main objective of all this propaganda is to portray as successful the devices used by the Baghdad regime and the world powers supporting since the imposed war began in order to force the Islamic Republic of Iran into a political and economic crisis hoping to prepare the ground for compromising moves toward ending the war.

It is clear that, with the passage of time, in view of the desperate condition of its Armed Forces at the battlefronts and in view of its numerous economic problems, the Iraqi regime is resorting to greater efforts to extricate itself from the present position in any way possible. At the moment, on the basis of the latest statistics issued by international financial organizations, due to the exhaustion of its foreign exchange reserves Iraq owes more than $50 billion to the countries supporting it in the Persian Gulf region. In addition to that, Iraq has not paid its debts to other countries, despite the fact that the deadline for payments has passed. This has forced Iraq to halt most of her development and economic projects.

Since Iraq's only source of economic income, namely its oil exports, have also been greatly demaged during the war, the Iraqi regime with the guidance and direct military assistance of countries such as France has been forced to resort to the creation of tension and crisis in the Persian Gulf, attempting to move the war from the land to the sea. According to the calculations of the Baghdad regime, the main outcome of this action is that, in view of the vital role which the Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf play for all the countries of the region and especially in view of the importance attached to a regular supply of oil to the importing industrialized countries, eventually a situation will arise when the war will extend beyond the borders of the two countries and a front composed of reactionary governments and imperialism will be formed against the Islamic Republic of Iran. This, in turn, will finally lead to an Iranian surrender.

Nevertheless, despite all the political, military and economic assistance of the reactionary governments of the region and imperialist countries in order to safeguard the views of the Baghdad regime, the attempts by Saddam's regime have so far met with failure.

It is interesting to note that in a time when all the propaganda loudspeakers are making a great deal of noise about the disruption of Iranian oil exports, the Iranian Central Bank governor in an interview rejected that claim and talked in detail about the foreign exchange situation of the country. Providing important figures concerning the issuing of letters of credit in various economic fields, he referred to Iranian oil income and said that, despite all the false propaganda of the arrogant mass media, in view of the diversity of outlets for oil exports there is absolutely no possibility of a cessation of our oil income.

In the same connection, Prime Minister Musavi in a speech referred to Baghdad's futile attempts and the sale of 24 French Mirage aircraft to Saddam, and emphasized that, through government initiatives -- made in the shortest possible time, which would not be believed by our enemies -- we will make the system of our oil exports less vulnerable.

Further Reportage on Foreign Minister's UN Visit

Meets With Kuwaiti Counterpart

GF030511 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 3 Oct 85

[Text] According to a report by the KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Kuwait, met with Iranian foreign minister Mr Velayati, at UN headquarters yesterday. The Kuwaiti foreign minister, in an interview, described the meeting as good and added that bilateral relations were discussed during the meeting.

Meets Pakistani, YAR Counterparts

LD021821 Tehran IRNA in English 1750 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text]Tehran, Oct.2, IRNA — Iranian Foreign Minister, Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, currently in New York to attend the United Nations' General Assembly, met with his Pakistani and North Yemeni counterparts, Tuesday afternoon [1 October].

In the meeting with the Pakistani foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and Velayati welcomed expansion of relations between Iran and Pakistan. Latest developments in Afghanistan and in Muslim countries vis-a-vis the Jerusalem occupying regime, were among topics discussed in the meeting. The Pakistani foreign minister invited Dr. Velayati to visit Pakistan.

In his meeting with the North Yemeni foreign minister, 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani Velayati discussed the expanding relations between Iran and North Yemen and reviewed outlooks of mutual cooperation between the two countries especially after Sana'a assembly. Citing his country's interest to boost the level of bilateral cooperation, Mr. al-'Iryani invited an Iranian economic delegation to visit Sanaa.

On the Iraqi-Imposed war on Iran, the Iranian foreign minister while explaining the adventurism of the Iraqi regime and foreign aids to the Baghdad regime said that the legitimate defence of Iran's Muslim nation had thwarted the expansionist ambitions of the Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn. "But the ignorance of some countries about the consequences of their helping Iraq will bring more harm to them than to any other countries," Velayati noted. The Iranian foreign minister also stressed Iran's determination to thwart insinuative conspiracies in the region.

Velayati also met and conferred with the foreign ministers of Libya and Indonesia, 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki and Prof. Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, respectively Tuesday afternoon. The Libyan foreign minister, and Velayati discussed current relations and bilateral coordination in the struggle against imperialism, Zionism and against Middle East reactionaries and reviewed latest developments in the region.

In the meeting with Indonesian foreign minister, also attended by foreign committee member of the Iran's Majlis (parliament) Abbas Duzduzani, the two ministers discussed bilateral relations including posting of a new Iranian ambassador to Indonesia and the coordination of the two countries strategies at Islamic and

international circles. Referring to the Iraqi aggression against Iran Dr. Velayati said the plot was carried out to weaken and finally destroy the Islamic revolution but that the resistance of the Iranian people had foiled it. The Indonesian foreign minister, in response, said "our information shows that plots and the (Iraq-Iran) war have not only not weakened Iran but also caused her to be strengthened."

Meets Greek, PRC, Polish Ministers

LD022221 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] According to a report from the Central News Unit yesterday, the Greek foreign minister met and conferred with Velayati, our country's foreign minister, who is in New York to attend the UN General Assembly. During the meeting the two sides expressed their countries' readiness to expand trade relations and stressed the importance of this step. Political developments in the Persian Gulf and the Balkans were also discussed. The Greek foreign minister invited Mr Velayati to visit Greece.

According to the same report, yesterday, the PRC foreign minister met and conferred with Velayati. During the meeting the results of the follow-up to the recent trip by Majlis speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani to the PRC and the implementation of the projects agreed on by the two sides were discussed. Issues relating to the Persian Gulf and Afghanistan were also discussed during the meeting. Mr Velayati invited a PRC delegation to visit Tehran.

The Polish foreign minister also met and conferred with our country's foreign minister yesterday. During the meeting, while expressing his gladness for the expansion of relations between the two countries, especially in economic fields, the Polish foreign minister invited Mr Velayati to visit Poland. International economic issues and the disarmament talks between the East and West were among the issues discussed during the meeting. While praising the Islamic revolution of Iran, the Polish foreign minister stressed the importance of expanding mutual relations.

According to the Central News Unit report, yesterday, the Iranian and Libyan foreign ministers met and held talks again in New York. During the meeting, the Israeli air raid on the Palestinian refugee camp in Tunisia, which was carried out with direct U.S. support, was condemned and the necessity for further coordination between the progressive countries in the region in the struggle against the acts of aggression committed by the Zionist regime and U.S. imperialism was stressed. The compromising policies of some Arab countries and Palestinian groups, who have set their hearts on holding talks with the Zionist regime in spite of its aggressive nature and U.S. support for that regime, were also condemned.

Confers With UN Secretary General

LD022243 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Our country's foreign affairs minister met and conferred with the UN secretary general yesterday evening. During this meeting, while explaining the Islamic Republic of Iran's positions on the imposed war, Velayati said that we have extended our control over the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz. If the Persian Gulf were to become useless to us, the countries of the region would incur the greatest loss because in that case we would have nothing else to lose.

Continuing his remarks, Velayati said that we shall continue forcefully to intercept and inspect those ships which carry arms and equipment to Iraq. The presence of major powers will have no effect on our actions because they can do nothing.

Also during the course of this meeting, issues related to the latest developments in Afghanistan and the outcome of the Geneva talks were discussed. In this connection Velayati said that the evacuation of the occupying forces and the true participation of the people of Afghanistan at the talks on their fate, are the two main factors which can help to solve this crisis.

Khamene'i, Culture Minister Discuss UNESCO

LD022339 Tehran IRNA in English 1805 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 2, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i announced here Wednesday that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is a free and independent international organization whose freedom and independence are inherent principles of this organization.

Speaking in a meeting with minister of culture and higher education, Dr Iraj Fazel and members of an Iranian delegation to participate in UNESCO's 23d general assembly in Bulgaria, Khamene'i added that if one day UNESCO should lose its independence so as to stand under the arrogant powers' umbrella, undoubtedly nothing will be left of the organization.

The president added that if UNESCO wanted to settle the world cultural problems it would be better to begin with chief problems such as suppression of culture or spread of prostitution in the Third World countries.

Ministers of culture and other cultural delegates from 160 member countries including the Islamic Republic of Iran are to participate in the UNESCO's 23d general assembly, scheduled to be held in Sofia, Bulgaria November 7-13.

Majlis Speaker, Besharati Discuss Arab Relations

LD020837 Tehran IRNA in English 0740 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 2, IRNA — The deputy foreign minister, 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, prior to a tour of Arab countries of the Persian Gulf region, met and talked with Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, here Tuesday.

During the meeting Besharati reported on the latest developments in the region. The Majlis speaker reiterated the importance of cordial relations with Arab countries of the region and also stressed the need for further strengthening of these ties.

Musavi, Commerce Minister Address Cabinet Meeting

LD022319 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] During today's meeting of the cabinet, Prime Minister Musavi expressed his dismay at the recent events in Tripoli and called for the cessation of such clashes, while stressing (?the mission) of the Islamic countries in extinguishing the flames of this battle, which will eventually help Israel's interests.

The prime minister condemned the recent Israeli attack on Palestinian quarters in Tunis, and urged the Islamic countries to immediately take position in order to seriously (?confront) the usurping Israel.

At the same meeting, Commerce Minister Abedi-Ja'fari briefed the cabinet on increases of non-oil exports compared with the same period last year. [as heard] Based on this report, the country's exports increased by 211 percent in (?volume) and by 17 percent in value, compared with the same period last year. [as heard] This increase is due to government policies concerning various export rates, fixing (?preferential) rates, facilitating exports versus imports, transfering facilities for earned export-related currency to other bonafide importers, and finally discarding exchange bonds for 106 commodities, as well as lowering bonds for various other commodities. The highest in exports rise is that of industrial goods, from 2.96 percent of the total non-oil exports during the first 5 months of last year, to 16.84 percent this year.

During the same meeting, the energy minister reported rises in electricity production, high-and low-voltage transformers, and a readiness to exporting these items, which compete with equivalent foreign aid units.

Interior Official Reports on Repair of War Damages

LD021813 Tehran IRNA in English 1210 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 2, IRNA — Over 51 towns and 3091 villages throughout Iran have been devastated in the course of the five-year-old Iraqi-imposed war, resulting in a loss of 202,215 billion dlrs, adviser to interior minister and head of headquarters for renovation of war-devastated areas, Hasan Akhondi, announced here Tuesday.

Speaking at a press conference attended by domestic and foreign reporters, Akhondi added that more than 82,000 urban and rural residential units in the war-stricken areas had been renovated by a total of 183,000 skilled, semi-skilled and other workers dispatched to these regions.

With establishment of provincial headquarters headed by leaders of Friday prayers, these 82,000 units have been renovated in 12 out of 51 Iranian cities only in three years despite the claims of some countries that they could renovate some 10,000 units in five years, Akhondi said.

Referring to the extent of crimes committed by Iraqi forces in destroying residential areas in Iran, the official said that a total of 118,834 residential quarters and 14,734 government buildings had been destroyed in Iraqi air and missile attacks during the said period.

Disabled Iraqi POW's Released 'Unilaterally'

LD021243 Tehran IRNA in English 1120 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Tehran, Oct 2, IRNA — The Islamic Republic here Wednesday unilaterally released another group of 104 disabled Iraqi POW's, bringing the total number so far released to over 400. The repatriation was carried out through efforts of the Turkish Red Crescent officials.

Speaking at Mehrabad International Airport before the release of the POW's, Hojjat ol-Eslam Shari'at, chief of the committee for POW affairs, stressed the humanitarian stance of Iran in dealing with Iraqi POW's and its adherence to international laws.

He added that of the 521 Iranian POW's so far released by Iraq, 70 percent were civilians abducted during the Iraqi occupation of the border cities, in violation of all international laws. Later he distributed mementos bearing Quranic inscriptions to the POW's.

The POW's expressed their gratitude towards humane and benevolent treatment by the camp authorites here and expressed the hope that in the near future the war will end with the victory of the Islamic combatants and defeat of the Iraqi regime.

POW Yusuf Kazim Bashir, a physics graduate from Baghdad University, who is completely paralysed from waist below, said that the Ba'thist regime of Iraq compelled him to fight against the Islamic forces and the responsibility of the Iraqi miseries rests entirely upon the Iraqi Ba'thists. He added that only those who support the Iraqi Ba'th party are admitted to the universities. Another POW, a Chaldean farmer from Baghdad Province, Samuel, was deeply impressed by the noble Islamic ideals of the Iranian authorities.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,246

LD021620 Tehran IRNA in English 1601 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 2, IRNA — Two Iraqi helicopters, one carrying ammunition and the other a gunship helicopter were shot down by Iranian ground-to-air fire at 14:30 hours (1100 GMT) Monday and and 14:15 hours (10:45 GMT) Wednesday in the northwestern fronts. The downed Iraqi helicopters were seen crashing and exploding by the Iranian fighters in these fronts, the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces reported here Wednesday.

Announcing this in its Communique Number 2246, the command added that two Iraqi tanks were also hit and destroyed by Iranian artillery fire in these fronts at 14:15 hours (11:45 GMT) Wednesday.

More than 20 Iraqi troops were killed or wounded and several bunkers of theirs were destroyes in the western fronts where their

positions were subjected to heavy artillery fire of Iranian combatants over the past 24 hours, the command said.

In the northwestern and southern fronts on Tuesday, Iranian fighters opened fire on Iraqi patrols, command outposts, supply routes and vehicle columns, inflicting casualties and losses on the enemy troops and forcing the Iraqi patrol units to flee, the communique said.

Iran's Gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions across the Arvand River over the past 24 hours, killing or wounding a number of Iraqi troops, levelling several bunkers and suppressing the enemy artillery fire, the communique said. The cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr in Khuzestan Province were targets of Iraq's long-range artillery fire over the past 24 hours which damaged a few buildings in Abadan, the communique concluded.

Radio Iran: Claims of Building New Pipelines False

GF021610 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] According to reports received from nationalist sources within the Islamic Republic's Oil Ministry, the regime, despite its claims, has not built new oil pipelines. Following the severe bombing of Khark Island, which has cut off oil exports from this terminal, the regime directly and indirectly announced that it planning to build a new oil pipeline to transport oil from the southern oil fields to Bandar Chahbahar, which is far from the reach of the Iraqis, so that oil can be exported from there.

The regime made it known that 5 to 6 months ago construction of this oil pipeline began and would be completed within the next 2 months.

According to this report the regime has so far not managed to lay down even one centimeter of this new pipe to export its oil.

According to another report, the Ahvaz pipe-making factory is totally incapable of producing pipes for this major project. One technical expert says the Ahvaz factory, which is working at a very low capacity, is not even able to make ordinary pipes needed in the country, let alone the big pipes for oil exports.

Afghan Mujahidin Operations Detailed

LD022228 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Mashhad, Khorasan Prov., Oct. 2, IRNA — Afghan Muslim revolutionaries launched attacks on joint Soviet-Afghan positions in 16 points last week, said despatches reaching here from Afghan sources.

In these operations mujahidin killed 26 of joint forces including political deputy of Brigade 32, Division 17, as well as administrative head of the information organization.

The Muslim revolutionaries wounded 10 and captured 18 of the joint forces while destroying a command post as well as five tanks and military personnel carriers in the attack.